

REMARKS

Claims 1-30 are now pending in the application. Claim 31 is cancelled by this amendment. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein. Of the above claims, 7-13, 16, 19-24 and 27-30 are withdrawn from consideration.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-6, 14, and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Pratt, Jr. et al. (U.S. Patent. No. 4,283,799). Claims 1-6, 14, 15, 17, 18, 25 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by DE 3903438 A1. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

The Applicant's representative thanks the Examiner for the interview of January 19, 2005 during which the claims as amended were discussed as allowable in light of the cited art. In this regard neither Pratt, Jr. et al. nor DE 3903438 A1 teach or fairly suggest the claims as amended.

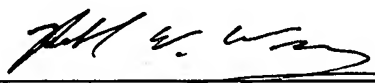
The Applicant further thanks the Examiner for the Interview of February 22, 2005 wherein the rejected claims and DE 3903438 A1 was discussed and the Applicant's representative believes that an agreement was reached where the amendments included herein overcome each of the cited art references. The Applicant notes that the Examiner previously indicated in the Advisory Action mailed 2/16/2005 that the amendments overcome the rejections based on Pratt, Jr. et al. Therefore the Applicant requests that the Examiner withdraw each of the rejections and allow each of the presently pending claims.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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